

92. (new) A document generation system as claimed in claim 91, wherein said logic sources are external to said XML source document.

93. (new) A document generation system as claimed in claim 90, wherein said assembly instructions are not defined in said predetermined DTD or schema.

94. (new) A method for generating an XML source document for a document assembly system, including:

(i) generating said XML source document by associating an initial XML document with one or more logic sources, said initial XML document and said XML source document both being valid with respect to the same predetermined DTD or schema; and

(ii) inserting in said XML source document one or more assembly instructions for determining content of an instance document.

95. (new) A method as claimed in claim 94, wherein said logic sources include information for use in conjunction with said one or more assembly instructions to determine content of said instance document.

96. (new) A method as claimed in claim 95, wherein said logic sources are external to said XML source document.

97. (new) A method as claimed in claim 94, including inserting one or more assembly instructions defining one or more conditions in one or more of said logic sources, and inserting one or more assembly instructions in said XML source document to associate said conditions with one or more portions of said XML source document.

98. (new) A method as claimed in claim 97, wherein said conditions include conditions for determining whether portions of said XML source document will be included in said instance document.

99. (new) A method as claimed in claim 97, wherein at least one of said one or more portions of said XML source document includes one or more XML nodes in said XML

source document, and a corresponding condition determines whether said one or more XML nodes will be included in said instance document.

100. (new) A method as claimed in claim 94, including adding, to a logic source, one or more logic elements for determining content of an instance document.

101. (new) A method as claimed in claim 100, wherein said one or more logic elements include interview data for defining one or more questions for a user of said document assembly system, and for constraining responses to said questions.

102. (new) A method as claimed in claim 94, wherein said step of inserting one or more assembly instructions includes inserting a assembly instruction indicating where content external to said XML source document can be included in said instance document.

103. (new) A method as claimed in claim 94, wherein said predetermined DTD or schema does not define said one or more assembly instructions.

104. (new) A method as claimed in claim 94, wherein said assembly instructions include XML processing instructions.

105. (new) A method as claimed in claim 94, wherein said assembly instructions include application data that can be parsed as XML.

106. (new) A method as claimed in claim 96, wherein said associating includes inserting one or more universal resource indicators (URIs) referencing said one or more logic sources.

107. (new) A method as claimed in claim 94, wherein said logic sources are represented in extensible markup language (XML).

108. (new) A method as claimed in claim 107, wherein said logic sources are valid XML documents.

109. (new) A method as claimed in claim 94, including inserting in said XML source document party assembly instructions referring to attributes of a party defined in said logic source.

110. (new) A method as claimed in claim 109, wherein said party attributes include one or more of gender and number.

111. (new) A method as claimed in claim 94, wherein said step of generating includes inserting in said XML source document party mapping data for mapping one or more attributes of one or more parties defined in one or more of said logic sources to respective parties of said XML source document.

112. (new) A document assembly method, including:  
accessing an XML source document including one or more assembly instructions and one or more logic sources associated with said XML source document; and  
generating an instance document on the basis of said XML source document and said one or more logic sources, wherein said XML source document is valid with respect to a predetermined DTD or schema.

113. (new) A method as claimed in claim 112, wherein said assembly instructions are not defined in said predetermined DTD or schema.

114. (new) A method as claimed in claim 112, wherein at least part of said one or more logic sources is external to said XML source document.

115. (new) A method as claimed in claim 112, wherein each of said one or more logic sources includes one or more conditions, and said step of generating includes evaluating at least one of said conditions to determine whether a corresponding portion of the XML source document is included in said instance document.

116. (new) A method as claimed in claim 115, wherein said one or more conditions include one or more conditions for determining whether portions of said XML source document are included in said instance document.

117. (new) A method as claimed in claim 115, wherein said evaluating includes evaluating one or more of said conditions to determine whether one or more XML nodes in said XML source document are included in said instance document.

118. (new) A method as claimed in claim 112, wherein one or more logic elements in said one or more logic sources include interview data, and said step of generating includes providing one or more questions to a user and receiving one or more responses to said questions on the basis of said interview data.

119. (new) A method as claimed in claim 118, wherein said step of generating includes generating assembly data on the basis of said responses.

120. (new) A method as claimed in claim 119, wherein said instance document is generated on the basis of said assembly data.

121. (new) A method as claimed in claim 112, wherein said step of generating includes accessing said one or more logic sources on the basis of said assembly instructions.

122. (new) A method as claimed in claim 112, wherein said step of generating includes accessing one or more other XML documents referenced by said XML source document.

123. (new) A method as claimed in claim 112, wherein said step of generating includes including text from a logic source in said instance document.

124. (new) A method as claimed in claim 112, wherein said step of generating includes including user response text in said instance document.

125. (new) A method as claimed in claim 112, wherein said one or more logic sources include one or more phrases to be used in relation to a party, where the party has values for attributes such as gender or number which match the attributes specified for said one or more phrases.

126. (new) A method as claimed in claim 112, wherein said step of generating includes including an item one or more times in said instance document.

127. (new) A method as claimed in claim 126, wherein said item has a different value for each of said times.

128. (new) A method as claimed in claim 112, wherein said step of generating includes evaluating a variable associated with textual data and including said textual data in said instance document if said variable has a first value and omitting said textual data from said instance document if said variable has a second value.

129. (new) A method as claimed in claim 128, wherein said variable is a Boolean variable.

130. (new) A method as claimed in claim 112, wherein said step of generating includes evaluating a variable and including the value of said variable in said instance document.

131. (new) A method as claimed in claim 114, wherein said XML source document includes one or more universal resource indicators (URIs) associating said one or more logic sources with said XML source document.

132. (new) A method as claimed in claim 112, wherein said assembly instructions include XML processing instructions.

133. (new) A method as claimed in claim 112, wherein said assembly instructions include application data that can be parsed as XML.

134. (new) A method as claimed in claim 112, wherein said one or more logic sources include one or more extensible markup language (XML) logic sources.

135. (new) A method as claimed in claim 112, wherein each of said one or more logic sources is a valid XML document.

136. (new) A method as claimed in claim 112, wherein said one or more logic sources include one or more logic elements.

137. (new) A method as claimed in claim 136, including resolving one or more variables of said one or more logic elements, and wherein said instance document is generated on the basis of the resolved variables.

138. (new) A method as claimed in claim 137, wherein said resolving includes accessing a database.

139. (new) A method as claimed in claim 137, wherein said resolving includes performing one or more interviews with a user.

140. (new) A method as claimed in claim 137, wherein said resolving includes executing one or more functions associated with said one or more logic elements.

141. (new) A method as claimed in claim 112, wherein said step of generating includes mapping one or more attributes of one or more parties used in said one or more logic sources to respective attributes used in said XML source document on the basis of mapping data of said XML source document.

142. (new) A document assembly system having components for executing the steps of claim 94.

143. (new) A computer readable storage medium having stored thereon program code for executing the steps of claim 94.

144. (new) A document assembly system having components for executing the steps of claim 112.

145. (new) A computer readable storage medium having stored thereon program code for executing the steps of claim 112.

146. (new) A document assembly system, including a processing engine for generating an instance document from at least one XML source document and one or more logic sources associated with said at least one XML source document, wherein said at least one XML source document is valid with respect to a predetermined DTD or schema.

147. (new) A system as claimed in claim 146, wherein said one or more logic sources are external to said at least one XML source document.

148. (new) A system as claimed in claim 147, wherein said at least one XML source document includes one or more assembly instructions for use in conjunction with said one or more logic sources to determine content of said instance document.

149. (new) A system as claimed in claim 148, wherein said one or more assembly instructions are not defined in said predetermined DTD or schema.

150. (new) A system as claimed in claim 146, wherein said instance document includes an XML instance document.

151. (new) A system as claimed in claim 150, wherein said XML instance document is valid with respect to a predetermined DTD or schema.

152. (new) A system as claimed in claim 146, wherein said system includes a rendering engine for generating from said instance document an output instance document for display in at least one output format.

153. (new) A system as claimed in claim 152, wherein said at least one output format includes at least one of hypertext markup language (HTML) format, portable document format (PDF), and rich text format (RTF).

154. (new) A system as claimed in claim 146, including an editor for editing XML source documents and XML logic sources on the basis of respective DTD or schema.

155. (new) A document assembly system, including an editor for generating an XML source document by associating an initial XML document with logic for use in generating an instance document from said XML source document, said initial XML document and said XML source document being valid with respect to the same predetermined DTD or schema.

156. (new) An XML source document for a document assembly system, said XML source document including one or more assembly instructions for determining content of

an instance document, said XML source document being valid with respect to a predetermined DTD or schema.

157. (new) An XML source document as claimed in claim 156, wherein said one or more assembly instructions are included in said XML source document.

158. (new) An XML source document as claimed in claim 157, including one or more references to respective logic sources external to said XML source document, said logic sources including information for use in conjunction with said one or more assembly instructions to determine content of said instance document.

159. (new) An XML source document as claimed in claim 156, wherein said one or more assembly instructions include references to one or more conditions for determining content of said instance document.

160. (new) An XML source document as claimed in claim 159, wherein said one or more conditions include one or more conditions for determining whether one or more XML nodes will be included in said instance document.

161. (new) An XML source document as claimed in claim 159, wherein a condition depends upon one or more other conditions.

162. (new) An XML source document as claimed in claim 161, wherein said conditions are related by Boolean operators.

163. (new) An XML source document as claimed in claim 157, wherein said one or more assembly instructions include one or more XML processing instructions.

164. (new) An XML source document as claimed in claim 157, wherein said one or more assembly instructions include application data that can be parsed as XML.

165. (new) An XML source document as claimed in claim 156, including mapping data for mapping one or more attributes of one or more parties used in said one or more logic sources to respective attributes used in said XML source document.



166. (new) A logic source for a document assembly system, said logic source including one or more logic elements for determining content of an instance document from an XML source document associated with said logic source, said XML source document being valid with respect to a predetermined DTD or schema.

167. (new) A logic source as claimed in claim 166, wherein said logic elements include one or more condition elements for determining content of said instance document.

168. (new) A logic source as claimed in claim 166, wherein said logic source includes interview data for displaying questions to a user and for determining responses to said questions.

169. (new) A logic source as claimed in claim 166, wherein said logic source includes one or more references to respective other logic sources external to said logic source, said other logic sources including information for use in determining content of said instance document.

170. (new) A logic source as claimed in claim 169, wherein a reference to a logic source or an XML source document includes party mapping information for mapping a first party used in the referenced source document or logic source to a second party used in the referring source document or logic source.

171. (new) A logic source as claimed in claim 166, wherein said XML source document includes an assembly instruction referencing a second XML document for use in determining content of said instance document.

172. (new) A logic source as claimed in claim 166, wherein said XML source document includes an assembly instruction for including in said instance document text from a logic source.

173. (new) A logic source as claimed in claim 168, wherein said XML source document includes an assembly instruction for including in said instance document response text provided by said user.